

President nominates Macdonald for major general

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ARLINGTON, Va. (Nov. 8, 2006) – The deputy commanding general of the newly-formed Installation Management Command has been nominated for a second star. Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld announced Nov. 7 that the president had nominated Brig. Gen. John A. Macdonald for appointment to the rank of major general.

Macdonald had served as director of the Installation Management Agency since May. On Oct. 24, the Army activated the Installation Management Command, appointing Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson as IMCOM commander and Macdonald as deputy commander. Elevating the former Installation Management Agency to the full authority of a command is designed to strengthen and consolidate installation support services to Soldiers and their families.

Before his command of IMA, Macdonald was commanding general of the Community and Family Support Center in Alexandria, Va. Under IMCOM, CFSC was renamed the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command and became a subordinate command, as did the Army Environmental Command.

The Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation command is led by Brig. Gen. Belinda Pinckney; the Army Environmental Command is led by Col. Michael O’Keefe. Both subordinate commands have their own flags. The IMCOM commander is dual-hatted as the Army’s assistant chief of staff for Installation Management, reporting directly to the Army Chief of Staff.



The establishment of the Installation Management Command is part of the Army’s efforts to reorganize its commands and specified headquarters to obtain the most agile command and control structures to support the expeditionary, modular force.

In announcing their decision to form IMCOM, Army officials said the full authority of command is vital to effectively direct the vast resources necessary to support troop deployments while meeting the needs of their families. Consolidating the installation management structure under IMCOM optimizes resources, protects the environment and enhances well-being of the Army community. IMCOM will provide fast, efficient and agile support to commanders in the performance of their tactical and strategic missions. The new command, currently headquartered in Virginia and Maryland, will relocate in 2010 to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in accordance with requirements of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure round. The deputy commanding general will locate in Texas, while the commanding general and ACSIM functions remain at the Pentagon.

The new command also will consolidate the four Installation Management Agency regions within the continental United States into two as required by BRAC. The West Region will stand up in November at Fort Sam Houston, with consolidation taking place over the next few years. The East Region will locate at Fort Eustis, Va., in 2010.